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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Helen Walz Healy of the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago at 79 years of age; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Healy was raised with a brother and sister in the South Shore neighborhood and attended Catholic schools from kindergarten through college; in the early 1950s she learned about a movement within the Catholic Church called Opus Dei; and

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WHEREAS, Opus Dei means "work of god" and it provided a way of living that she found inspiring; through its teachings, she discovered that her work could be a means of practicing her faith to be closer to God; and

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WHEREAS, In 1954, Mrs. Healy became one of the first members of the U.S. branch of Opus Dei, which was founded in Spain in the 1920s; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Healy married Maurice Healy in 1948 and they raised seven children; Mrs. Healy started a stationery and bridal business in 1970, which she ran out of her home until recently; along with her business she also put considerable energy into Opus Dei activities; and

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WHEREAS, In 1974, Mrs. Healy helped found the Willows Academy, a private school for girls in 6th through 12th grade; in 1977, she helped found Lexington College, a small culinary school for women; both schools teach Opus Dei, with its emphasis on getting closer to God through normal daily activities; and

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WHEREAS, In 1991, Mrs. Healy was part of the group that pushed the Chicago archdiocese to reopen St. Mary of the Angels Church and have Opus Dei run the facility; and

1 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mrs. Healy was praised for her
2 efforts by the organizations she was associated with and was
3 honored by Lexington College, having a scholarship foundation
4 named after her; and

5 WHEREAS, Her passing will be deeply felt by all who knew
6 and loved her, especially her husband, Maurice; her four
7 sons, Maurice, Michael, John, and Joseph; her three
8 daughters, Mary Grace Healy, Mary Loretta Coultrip, and Mary
9 Florence Trunk; her 27 grandchildren; and her
10 great-grandchild; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the death of
13 Helen Walz Healy and extend our sincere condolences to her
14 family and friends; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Helen Walz Healy with our deepest
17 sympathy.